

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 INR-07 PM-04 NSC-05
DODE-00 CIAE-00 MC-02 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /046 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JZIOLKOWSKI
APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:JWTTWINAM
PM/MC:BFEMMINELLA(DRAFT)
PM/SAS:DKEENE(DRAFT)

-----132349Z 114411 /70 S

O 132212Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DOHA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 109376

E.O. 11652:XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MASS, AQ, US

SUBJECT: QATARI POLICE CHIEF'S CONCERN OVER USG-APPROVED
SALE OF ARMS

REF: DOHA 0558

1. PM/MC RECORDS SHOW THAT NO RPT NO WEAPONS OR MILITARY/
POLICE EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN EXPORTED TO QATAR IN CY 1977.
FOLLOWING ARE EXPORTS FOR FY 1976: 94 PISTOLS VALUED AT
DOLS 10,403; RADIO RECEIVING EQUIPMENT VALUED AT DOLS 7102;
ONE ANTENNA COUPLE VALUED AT DOLS 9498; 1000 CARTRIDGES
VALUED AT DOLS 130; FOUR VOICE SCRAMBLERS FOR TELEPHONES
VALUED AT DOLS 15,332 FOR TOTAL OF DOLS 42,465.

2. A TOTAL OF SEVEN REQUESTS HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR
CY 77 SO FAR AND THESE TOTAL DOLS 45,256. THE SEVEN
REQUESTS ARE FOR M-16 RIFLES, PISTOLS AND CARTRIDGES.
THESE REQUESTS HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY DEPARTMENT BUT THE
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ITEMS HAVE NOT YET BEEN EXPORTED.

3. AS EMBASSY AWARE, AN APPLICATION FOR SALE OF 10 M-16
RIFLES TO SHEIKH SUHAYM VALUED AT DOLS 2920 TOTAL WAS
APPROVED EARLIER THIS YEAR. TWO OTHER REQUESTS FOR FIVE
M-16 RIFLES EACH WERE AUTHORIZED IN CY 1976. TO DATE, NONE

OF THESE WEAPONS HAVE BEEN EXPORTED.

4. IN ADDITION TO REQUESTS FOR RIFLES FOR SHEIKH SUHAYM, REQUESTS FOR WEAPONS OR POLICE EQUIPMENT HAVE ALSO COME IN NAME OF QATARI MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND POLICE DEPARTMENT.

5. DEPARTMENT HAS NOT RPT NOT HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS PROCEDURES FOR ARMS SALES TO QATAR WITH AMBASSADOR AL-MANA BECAUSE HE HAS BEEN ABSENT FROM WASHINGTON AND WILL BE OUT OF COUNTRY AN ADDITIONAL TWO WEEKS, ACCORDING TO EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY. HOWEVER, DISCUSSING THESE PROCEDURES WITH AMBASSADOR MAY CAUSE MORE PROBLEMS THAN IT SOLVES GIVEN GOQ INNER TURMOIL AND CONCERN ON THIS MATTER. DEPARTMENT ENDORSES EMBASSY RESPONSE TO SHEIKH HAMAD (PARAS 2 AND 3 REFTEL). REQUESTS FOR M-16 RIFLES CAME THROUGH QATARI EMBASSY AND QATARI AMBASSADOR, WHICH CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL GOQ REPRESENTATION TO USG. SHOULD GOQ DECIDE TO CHANGE CHANNELS THROUGH WHICH IT APPROVES PURCHASES OF THIS TYPE OF EQUIPMENT FROM U.S., DEPARTMENT WOULD BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER SUCH A CHANGE OF PROCEDURE. CHRISTOPHER

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